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SECURITY INFORMATION

US OFFICIALS ONLY

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

FLOW OF PETROLEUM IN THE SOVIET BLOC EUROPEAN SATELLITES 1952

CIA/RR IM-375

13 July 1953

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CONTENTS

Page

Summary and Conclusions 1

1. Rumania 4

2. Soviet Zone of Austria 5

3. East Germany 5

4. Hungary 7

5. Albania 8

Appendixes

Appendix A. Methodology 9

Appendix B. Gaps in Intelligence 11

Appendix C. Sources and Evaluation of Sources 13

Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8

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SECURITY INFORMATION

FLOW OF PETROLEUM IN THE SOVIET BLOC EUROPEAN SATELLITES* 1952

Summary and Conclusions

The European Satellites exported a total of 8,823,000 metric tons of crude oil and petroleum products across international boundaries during 1952. Of this total, 4,869,000 metric tons were shipped to the USSR; 2,062,000 metric tons, to the European Satellites; 20,000 metric tons, to the Asiatic Satellites; and 1,872,000 metric tons, outside the Soviet Bloc. At the same time, the European Satellites imported 123,000 metric tons of petroleum products from the USSR and 2,062,000 metric tons of crude oil and petroleum products from other countries in the Soviet Bloc. Imports of petroleum by the European Satellites from outside the Soviet Bloc were negligible in 1952. The net trade balance of the European Satellites with the rest of the world shows net exports of 4,746,000 metric tons of crude oil and petroleum products to the USSR, net exports to the Asiatic Satellites of 20,000 metric tons of petroleum products, and net exports outside the Soviet Bloc of 1,872,000 metric tons of petroleum products. Of the 6,638,000 metric tons of net exports, only 260,000 metric tons were crude oil.

Table 1** summarizes the exports and imports of crude oil and petroleum products made by each European Satellite and by the European Satellites as a whole during 1952.

The net exporting countries among the European Satellites during 1952 were, in order of importance, Rumania, the Soviet Zone of Austria, Albania, and East Germany. Among these, the Soviet Zone of Austria and Albania were the only exporters of crude oil. All of these countries were net exporters of petroleum products. Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, and Poland were net importers of petroleum, whereas Hungary's imports of crude oil and exports of petroleum products were very nearly equal.

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* This memorandum contains information available as of 1 March 1953.
** Table 1 follows on p. 2.

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Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8

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Table 1

International Flow of Petroleum in the European Satellites
1952

Thousand Metric Tons

	Exports				Imports		
	To the USSR	To Other Satellites	Outside the Soviet Bloc	Total	From the USSR	From Other Satellites	Trade Balance
Albania							
Crude Oil	0	95	60	155	0	0	+155
Petroleum Products	94	26	0	120	5	40	+75
Subtotal	94	121	60	275	5	40	+230
Bulgaria							
Petroleum Products	0	0	0	0	40	215	-255
Czechoslovakia							
Crude Oil	0	0	0	0	0	220	-220
Petroleum Products	0	0	0	0	0	386	-386
Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	606	-606
East Germany							
Crude Oil	0	0	0	0	0	245	-245
Petroleum Products	310	86	42	438	30	15	+393
Subtotal	310	86	42	438	30	260	+148
Hungary							
Crude Oil	0	0	0	0	0	350	-350
Petroleum Products	345	55	0	400	1	50	+349
Subtotal	345	55	0	400	1	400	-1

Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8

Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8

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Table 1

International Flow of Petroleum in the European Satellites
1952
(Continued)

Thousand Metric Tons

	Exports				Imports		
	To the USSR	To Other Satellites	Outside the Soviet Bloc	Total	From the USSR	From Other Satellites	Trade Balance
Poland							
Crude Oil	0	0	0	0	0	225	-225
Petroleum Products	0	0	0	0	25	308	-333
Subtotal	0	0	0	0	25	533	-558
Rumania							
Petroleum Products	3,720	615	770	5,105	22	8	+5,075
Soviet Zone of Austria							
Crude Oil	200	945	0	1,145	0	0	+1,145
Petroleum Products	200	260	1,000	1,460	Negligible	0	+1,460
Subtotal	400	1,205	1,000	2,605	Negligible	0	+2,605
Total European Satellites							
Crude Oil	200	1,040	60	1,300	0	1,040	+260
Petroleum Products	4,669	1,042	1,812	7,523	123	1,022	+6,378
Total	4,869	2,082 a/	1,872	8,823	123	2,062	+6,638

a. 20,000 metric tons of petroleum products were exported to the Asiatic Satellites.

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Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8

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1. Rumania.

Rumania is by far the most important source of supply for petroleum in the European Satellites. Of approximately 6 million metric tons of petroleum products obtained from indigenous crude oil, about 5.1 million metric tons, or almost 85 percent, were exported to other countries of the Soviet Bloc and to Western Europe. These exports included 57 percent distillates and 43 percent residuals and included no whole crude oil.

Table 2 shows the shipments out of Rumania in 1952, by country of destination and by major product groups.

Table 2

Exports of Petroleum Products from Rumania
1952

	Thousand Metric Tons		
Destination	Distillates	Residuals	Total
Albania 1/*	36	4	40
Bulgaria 2/	200	10	210
Czechoslovakia 3/	90	110	200
East Germany 4/	0	10	10
Hungary 5/	5	10	15
Poland 6/	100	20	120
USSR 7/	2,200	1,500	3,700
China 8/	20	0	20
Soviet Far East 9/	20	0	20
Denmark 10/	0	20	20
Finland 11/	250	150	400
Italy 12/	0	100	100
Norway 13/	0	10	10
Sweden 14/	0	40	40
Switzerland 15/	0	200	200
Total	2,921	2,184	5,105

* Footnote references in arabic numerals are to sources listed in Appendix C.

Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8

Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8

Railroad tank cars and seagoing tankers were the major means of carrying these exports to their destinations. Over 45 percent of the total was shipped out by tanker from Constanta and an additional 35 percent was exported by rail. The remainder left the country by pipeline to the USSR and by river barge on the Danube River.

Imports into Rumania were negligible. Small quantities of high-octane aviation gasoline, jet fuel, and special lubricants were supplied by the USSR. In addition, some bitumen was imported from Albania. The total from both countries probably did not amount to 30,000 metric tons in 1952, less than 1 percent of Rumanian exports.

2. Soviet Zone of Austria.

The Soviet Zone of Austria is the second largest exporter of petroleum among the European Satellites. Only about 10 percent of the estimated 3.2 million metric tons of crude oil produced in 1952 remained in the Soviet Zone of Austria. Of more than 2.6 million metric tons moved out, 43 percent was in the form of crude oil; 32 percent, distillates; and 25 percent, residuals. It is possible that as much as three-quarters of these exports left the Vienna area by way of the Danube River and that the remainder was carried away by railroad tank cars. By the terms of the occupation agreement, the Russians supply the entire Austrian economy with the necessary petroleum products. The Western Zones of Austria are the only areas outside the Soviet Bloc that received any of the exports from the Soviet Zone of Austria in 1952.

Table 3* shows the amounts and destinations of crude oil and petroleum products exported from the Soviet Zone of Austria in 1952.

As far as is known, there were no imports of petroleum products into the Soviet Zone of Austria, with the possible exception of small quantities of aviation fuels for the supply of the Soviet air units in the area.

3. East Germany.

Seventy percent of the nearly 440,000 metric tons of petroleum products exported from East Germany went to the USSR. Of the total

* Table 3 follows on p. 6.

Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8

Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8

exports, 99 percent was in the form of distillates, with the remaining very small amount in the form of lubricants. Table 4 shows the destination of East German exports.

Table 3

Exports of Petroleum from the Soviet Zone of Austria
1952

	Thousand Metric Tons			
Destination	Crude Oil	Distillates	Residuals	Total
USSR 16/	200	200	0	400
Czechoslovakia 17/	220	130	45	395
East Germany 18/	245	0	0	245
Hungary 19/	350	20	15	385
Poland 20/	130	40	10	180
Western Zones of Austria 21/	0	400	600	1,000
Total	1,145	790	670	2,605

Table 4

Exports of Petroleum Products from East Germany
1952

	Thousand Metric Tons		
Destination 22/	Distillates	Residuals	Total
USSR	309	1	310
Poland	73	2	75
West Germany	42	0	42
Czechoslovakia	11	0	11
Total	435	3	438

Virtually all these exports left East Germany by rail. There were, however, occasional shipments by tanker by way of Stettin (Szczecin) in Poland.

Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8

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East Germany imported 245,000 tons of crude oil from the Soviet Zone of Austria in 1952. In addition, approximately 25,000 metric tons 23/ of high-octane gasoline were shipped in from the USSR, together with about 20,000 metric tons of lubricants from the USSR, Hungary, and Rumania.

4. Hungary.

Hungary's estimated total exports of petroleum in 1952 amounted to 400,000 metric tons, with over 85 percent going to the USSR. It is believed that these shipments were carried about equally by rail and by river barge on the Danube River. Table 5 shows the destination of these exports by type and quantities.

Table 5

Exports of Petroleum Products from Hungary
1952

	Thousand Metric Tons		
Destination	Distillates	Residuals	Total
USSR 24/	285	60	345
Poland 25/	50	0	50
East Germany 26/	0	5	5
Total	335	65	400

In 1952, Hungary imported 400,000 metric tons of petroleum from the other countries of the Soviet Bloc. Nearly 95 percent of these imports were in the form of crude oil and residuals for processing in the Hungarian refineries. As shown in Tables 2 and 3, Austria supplied Hungary with 350,000 metric tons of crude oil and 15,000 metric tons of residuals in 1952, and Rumania furnished 10,000 metric tons of residuals. In addition, Hungary received 25,000 metric tons of distillates from Austria and Rumania and a small quantity of lubricants from the USSR.

Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8

Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8

5. Albania.

Almost 60 percent of Albania's 275,000 metric tons of exports of petroleum in 1952 were in the form of crude oil, with the remainder in the form of bitumen. All of these exports were handled by tanker out of the port of Vlone. Table 6 shows these shipments by destination and type.

Table 6

Exports of Petroleum from Albania
1952

	Thousand Metric Tons		
Destination	Crude Oil	Residuals	Total
Poland 27/	95	13	108
USSR 28/	0	94	94
Italy 29/	60	0	60
Rumania 30/	0	8	8
Bulgaria 31/	0	5	5
Total	155	120	275

In 1952, Albania imported about 5,000 metric tons of aviation gasoline and other special products from the USSR and 40,000 metric tons of petroleum products from Rumania.

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Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8

APPENDIX B

GAPS IN INTELLIGENCE

Intelligence information on East Germany, on the Soviet Zone of Austria, and on the tanker shipments out of Constanta through the Bosporus is believed to be good. Information on Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, and Albania is only fair. The most critical gaps exist in information on Bulgaria and on shipments by rail and pipeline from Rumania. Except in the cases of East Germany and the Soviet Zone of Austria, reliable intelligence on the flow of petroleum between the European Satellites and the USSR is almost completely lacking.

Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8

Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8

APPENDIX C

SOURCES AND EVALUATION OF SOURCES

1. Evaluation of Sources.

Taken individually, most of the sources used in preparing this memorandum are considered to be at least possibly true (as indicated below). The over-all consistency of the results obtained by using these sources in a critical fashion is considered sufficiently good to justify the conclusion that the resulting estimates are accurate within a margin of error of plus or minus 10 percent.

2. Sources.

Evaluations, following the classification entry and designated "Eval.," have the following significance:

Source of Information	Information
A - Completely reliable	1 - Confirmed by other sources
B - Usually reliable	2 - Probably true
C - Fairly reliable	3 - Possibly true
D - Not usually reliable	4 - Doubtful
E - Not reliable	5 - Probably false
F - Cannot be judged	6 - Cannot be judged

Evaluations not otherwise designated are those appearing on the cited document; those designated "RR" are by the author of this report. No "RR" evaluation is given when the author agrees with the evaluation of the cited document.

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Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8

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Approved For Release 1999/09/21 : CIA-RDP79T00935A000200220001-8